

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters 101st Airborne Division
APO San Francisco 96383

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 11230

28 December 1968

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

1. TC 320. The following AWARD is announced.

FEURER, MICHAEL H. CAPTAIN INFANTRY Company D
2d Battalion (Airborne) 501st Infantry APO San Francisco 96383

Awarded: The Silver Star

Effective month: December 1968

Date action: 24 October 1968

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: For gallantry in action in the Republic of Vietnam on 24 October 1968. Captain Feurer distinguished himself while serving as Commanding Officer of Company D, 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry. Captain Feurer was leading his company on a reconnaissance in force mission in the jungle near Hue, Republic of Vietnam. The lead platoon came under a heavy volume of fire. The initial burst wounded several men including the platoon leader. Captain Feurer immediately moved forward and assumed command of the platoon. It soon became apparent to Captain Feurer that he was engaging heavily fortified bunker systems that were extremely formidable. As the platoon closed on the enemy stronghold, Captain Feurer advanced to the front of his unit to determine the extent of the enemy's defenses and the overall strength of the positions. As soon as he came within view of the positions, enemy automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenade fire churned up the earth within inches of his position. The fire increased, severely wounding two men, and making it extremely dangerous for the wounded to be carried to the rear of the column. Captain Feurer organized a small group of volunteers to aid and carry the wounded. He exposed himself to the enemy fire several times in order to reach the fallen men. He then moved to the forward portion of the platoon and directed helicopter gunship fire on the enemy. As the helicopters were firing, Captain Feurer withdrew his forces from the point of contact but remained behind to cover the withdrawal of his men. Captain Feurer's expert knowledge and courageous actions resulted in the evacuation of several wounded men and the safe withdrawal of the company. Captain Feurer remained within twenty meters of the enemy position, continuing to call in gunship support. When he felt sure the company was in a good position, he began to pull back. Captain Feurer and his radio-telephone operator had only moved five meters when the radio-telephone operator was wounded. Disregarding his own safety, Captain Feurer carried his radio-telephone operator to safety. After Captain Feurer evacuated all the wounded, he called for a resupply of ammunition. As the helicopter came in, it crashed not more than one-hundred meters from the point of contact. He very quickly organized his men and secured a medical evacuation helicopter in order to save four of the men injured in the crash. The entire operation took place after dark and the enemy, taking advantage of the company's precarious situation, began a mortar barrage.

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DA, HQ, 101st Abn Div APO SF 96383 28 Dec 68

Captain Feurer continued to evacuate the seriously injured men as the enemy rounds came closer and closer to the hastily constructed landing zone. Captain Feurer's exceptional valor is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the President of the United States under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 9 July 1918.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

L. L. MOWERY
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff

For ML Marsh MAJ AGC
DALE H. HAYES
LTC, AGC
Adjutant General

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